

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) An article processing system, comprising:
 - a database that stores article identification information and article location information for a plurality of articles;
 - a first module that determines at least a shipment date when a pending user order is to be shipped, wherein the pending order was placed via a computer network during a first network session;
 - a second module that, based at least in part on information retrieved from the database, identifies at least a first article that can be added to the pending order within a first amount of time without delaying the shipment date of the pending order; and
 - a third module that causes a notification to be presented to the user, wherein the notification indicates that the user can add at least the first article to the pending order without delaying the pending order shipment.
2. (Original) The article processing system as defined in Claim 1, wherein the notification is an icon displayed via a toolbar on a user terminal.
3. (Original) The article processing system as defined in Claim 1, wherein the third module causes the notification to be presented to the user at least partly in response to determining that the user is accessing the computer network.
4. (Original) The article processing system as defined in Claim 1, wherein the notification is provided via an email transmitted to a user email address.
5. (Original) The article processing system as defined in Claim 1, wherein the notification includes a link, wherein if the user activates the link after the first amount of time, the user is provided a message indicating that the first amount time to add articles to the pending order has expired.
6. (Original) The article processing system as defined in Claim 1, wherein the notification includes an order incentive offer.
7. (Original) The article processing system as defined in Claim 1, further comprising a fourth module, that, during a second network session, provides that user with an interface via which the user can add the at least first article to the pending order.

8. (Original) The article processing system as defined in Claim 1, wherein the location information is used by the second module to determine how long it would take to transport the first article from a storage area to a packing area.

9. (Original) The article processing system as defined in Claim 1, wherein the first article is identified based in part on at least one article type in the pending order.

10. (Original) The article processing system as defined in Claim 1, wherein the first article is identified based in part on user history order information retrieved from the database.

11. (Original) The article processing system as defined in Claim 1, wherein the first article is identified based in part on the quantity of the first article in inventory in an order fulfillment center from which at least one article in the pending order is to be shipped.

12. (Original) The article processing system as defined in Claim 1, wherein the first article is identified based in part on user preference information retrieved from the database.

13. (Currently amended) The article processing system as defined in Claim 1, wherein the notification is provided to the user ~~at least one~~ after the pending order was placed.

Claims 14-49 (Cancelled)

50. (New) An article order processing apparatus stored on a computer readable medium, the article order processing apparatus comprising instructions configured to be executed by a computing device in order to perform the method of:

identifying a shipment date when a pending user order is to be shipped;

based at least in part on information retrieved from a database that stores article identification information and article location information for a plurality of articles, identifying a first article that can be added to the pending order without delaying the shipment date of the pending order; and

providing a notification for the user that indicates that the user can add the first article to the pending order without delaying the pending order shipment date.

51. (New) The article order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 50, wherein the notification is configured to cause an icon to be displayed via a toolbar on a user terminal.

52. (New) The article order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 50, wherein the apparatus is configured to provide the notification to the user at least partly in response to determining that the user is accessing a first web site.

53. (New) The article order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 50, wherein the apparatus is configured to provide the notification via an email transmitted to a user email address.

54. (New) The article order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 50, wherein the notification includes a link, wherein if the user activates the link after a first amount of time, the user is provided a message indicating that the first amount time to add articles to the pending order has expired.

55. (New) The article order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 50, wherein the notification includes an order incentive offer.

56. (New) The article order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 50, wherein the apparatus is further configured to perform the method of providing the user with an interface via which the user can add the at least first article to the pending order.

57. (New) The article order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 50, wherein the location information is used by the apparatus to determine how long it would take to transport the first article from a storage area to a packing area.

58. (New) The article order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 50, wherein the first article is identified based in part on at least one article type in the pending order.

59. (New) The article order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 50, wherein the first article is identified based in part on user history order information retrieved from the database.

60. (New) The article order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 50, wherein the first article is identified based in part on the quantity of the first article in inventory in an order fulfillment center from which at least one article in the pending order is to be shipped.

61. (New) The article order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 50, wherein the first article is identified based in part on user preference information retrieved from the database.

62. (New) The article order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 50, wherein the notification is provided to the user after the pending order was placed.

63. (New) An item order processing apparatus stored on a computer readable medium, the item order processing apparatus comprising instructions configured to be executed by a computing device in order to perform the method of:

receiving an indication that a user has a pending order for a first item associated with a shipping date;

receiving an indication that a specified item not in the pending order can be shipped with the pending order without delaying the shipping date; and

providing a communication for the user indicating that the user can add the specified item to the pending order without delaying the shipping date.

64. (New) The item order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 63, the item order processing apparatus further comprising instructions configured to be executed by a computing device in order to perform the method of:

accessing data from a database that stores item identification information and item location information for a plurality of items; and

based at least in part on accessed data, determining that the specified item can be added to the pending order without delaying the shipment date of the pending order.

65. (New) The item order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 63, the item order processing apparatus further comprising instructions configured to be executed by a computing device in order to perform the method of:

determining a first time period in which the user can add the specified item to the pending order without delaying the shipping date; and

including information regarding the first date in the communication for the user.

66. (New) The item order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 63, the item order processing apparatus further comprising instructions configured to be executed by a computing device in order to perform the method of:

accessing location information of a plurality of items; and

based at least in part on the location information, indicating that the specified item is to be referred to in the communication for the user.

67. (New) The item order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 63, the item order processing apparatus further comprising instructions configured to be executed by a computing device in order to perform the method of:

accessing location information of a plurality of items; and

wherein the location information is used to determine how long it would take to transport the first item from a first location to a second location.

68. (New) The item order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 63, wherein the communication is configured to cause an icon to be displayed via a toolbar on a user terminal.

69. (New) The item order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 63, wherein the apparatus is configured to provide the communication to the user at least partly in response to determining that the user is accessing a first web site.

70. (New) The item order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 63, wherein the apparatus is configured to provide the communication via an email transmitted to a user email address.

71. (New) The item order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 63, wherein the communication includes a link, wherein if the user activates the link after a first amount of time, the user is provided a message indicating that the first amount time to add items to the pending order has expired.

72. (New) The item order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 63, wherein the communication includes an order incentive offer.

73. (New) The item order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 63, wherein the communication includes a control via which the user can add the specified item to the pending order.

74. (New) The item order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 63, wherein the first item is identified based in part on at least one item type in the pending order.

75. (New) The item order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 63, wherein the first item is identified based in part on user history order information retrieved from the database.

76. (New) The item order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 63, wherein the first item is identified based in part on the quantity of the first item in inventory in an order fulfillment center from which at least one item in the pending order is to be shipped.

77. (New) The item order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 63, wherein the first item is identified based in part on user preference information retrieved from the database.

78. (New) The item order processing apparatus as defined in Claim 63, wherein the communication is provided to the user after the pending order was placed.